

BY repealing and reenacting, without amendments,

Article – Family Law

Section 5-410.1(e) and 5-554.1(c)(1) and (3)

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2003 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

BY adding to

Article – Real Property

Section 2-123

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2003 Replacement Volume and 2004 Supplement)

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That Section(s) 1-101(b), (c), (d), (f), and (g), respectively, of Article – Family Law of the Annotated Code of Maryland be renumbered to be Section(s) 1-101(d), (e), (h), (j), and (k), respectively.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That Section(s) 5-301 through 5-330 and the subtitle “Subtitle 3. Adoption and Guardianship With the Right to Consent to Adoption”; 5-3A-01 through 5-3A-07 and the subtitle “Subtitle 3A. Access to Birth and Adoption Records”; 5-4B-01(c), 5-4C-01(f), 5-501(c) and (l), 5-507(c), 5-559(b), 5-586(b), 5-701(f), 5-705.1(a), 5-1201(d) and (f), and 6-101(b) of Article – Family Law of the Annotated Code of Maryland be repealed.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:

Article 27A – Public Defender

4.

(b) Legal representation shall be provided indigent defendants or parties in the following proceedings:

(5) [An involuntary termination of parental rights proceeding or a hearing under § 5-319 of the Family Law Article, if the party is entitled to Public Defender representation under § 5-323] AS TO A PARENT, A HEARING IN CONNECTION WITH GUARDIANSHIP OR ADOPTION UNDER TITLE 5, SUBTITLE 3, PART II OR PART III of the Family Law Article.

(d) Representation by the Office of the Public Defender[,] or [by] an attorney appointed by the Office [of the Public Defender, shall]:

(1) SHALL extend to all stages in the proceedings[, including custody]:

(I) INCLUDING, IN CRIMINAL PROCEEDINGS, CUSTODY, interrogation, preliminary hearing, arraignment, trial, [a hearing in an involuntary termination of parental rights proceeding, a hearing under § 5-319 of the Family Law Article,] and appeal, if any[,];

(II) AS PROVIDED IN § 3-813 OF THE COURTS ARTICLE; AND